



202 Eldorado Road, Suite B-3; Bloomington, Illinois

McLean County Republicans

*January/February, 2026*

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Fisher

Fundraising, Connie Beard

Elections, Kim Miller

Communications, Connie

Beard

**Ringling in the New Year!**

MCGOP is Communications is revamping the newsletter. We have heard from some and would be happy to hear from more. We are asking you to share your ideas on how this publication may better serve you. Between now and February 6, please email your ideas to Connie Beard—[connie.beard2@gmail.com](mailto:connie.beard2@gmail.com). Connie's team will meet soon thereafter to further look at how to even better reach those integral to the success of the McLean County Republicans.

Ideas already on the table:

- ★ Letters to the Editor —where your viewpoint can be shared with a larger community. Guidelines for submission being developed. *Thoughts?*
- ★ Community Column—where a member of our community shares a current event issue and perspectives around the issue. *Are you that person?*
- ★ Expand “Help Needed” - Looking to grow in a more organized manner where we advertise a specific role integral to the success of the McLean County Republicans. Looking for leadership to lead/design/hand pick their committees for specific pillars of the organization . While these roles are and always have been important, we are coming up on mid-terms and need to get even more hands on board. *Does this spark something in you?* Let us know and help us build our lists.

Please, speak up. Your voice is important and we are listening!

**Rebuilding the New McLean County Republicans Newsletter**

As this is a fairly new idea, Communications has decided this newsletter will encompass January/February news with highlights only, with the March Newsletter unveiling what you help us create. Thank you for your ideas, support and understanding as we get creative.

*Here We Go*

**Hope you will join us!**

## 2026 Republican Candidates for McLean County

Office	Candidate
Governor/Lt Governor	Darren Bailey/Aaron Del Mar Ted Dabrowski/Carrie Mendosa Rick Heidner James Mendrick/Robert Renteriz Gregg Moore
US Senate	Cary Capparelli Casey Chlebek Casandra Claiborne John Goodman Pamela Denise Long Jimmy Lee Tilman II Don Tracy
16 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District	Darin LaHood John Kitover
17 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District	Dillan Vancil Julie Bickelhaupt
Secretary of State	Walter Adamczyk
State Comptroller	Bryan Drew
State Senate	Sally Turner-44th Chris Balkema- 53 <sup>rd</sup>
State Representative	Bill Hauter – 87 <sup>th</sup> Regan Deering- 88 <sup>th</sup> Tim Reustman- 105 <sup>th</sup> Jason Bunting- 106 <sup>th</sup>
County Clerk	Kathy Michael
County Sheriff	Jon Albee
County Treasurer	Rebecca McNeil
Regional Education Superintendent	Molly Allen
County Board #1	Andy Ziebarth
County Board #2	Bill Friedrich
County Board #3	Brian Bangert
County Board #4	Jerry Klinkner
County Board #5	Jeff Lord
County Board #7	Geoff Tompkins
County Board #10	Matt Steinkoenig



### 2026 Candidate Forum

January 31 at Doubletree Hotel 9:00 am- 10:30 am. Some of our slated speakers are

- ★ Candidate for Governor: Ted Debrowski,
- ★ Candidate for U.S. Senate: Don Tracy
- ★ Candidates for 17<sup>th</sup> Congressional District: Julie Bickelhaupt and Dillan Vancil
- ★ Candidate for Attorney General: Andy Williams
- ★ We have several other candidates pending confirmation.

Become an informed voter for this March 17 primary election.

Here's the link to get your tickets: [https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/2026\\_candidate\\_forum](https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/2026_candidate_forum)

## Upcoming Events



# CANDIDATE TOWN HALL BREAKFAST

Join us for a light breakfast and a good look at those who are asking for your vote in the March Primary. We will hear from State Legislators and County Candidates.



**Saturday, Feb. 7 2026**  
**9:00AM - 10:30AM**  
 DeMik Community Room  
 1304 Morrissy, Bloomington  
 Wilber South Bldg.

**RSVP NOW**

### FREE Town Hall Breakfast

This free event will be held on Saturday, February 7 from 9:00am – 10:30 am in Bloomington. **While it is free, reservations are required** and can be made at [https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/2026\\_candidate\\_townhall](https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/2026_candidate_townhall) State Legislative Candidates and County Candidates will be speaking. Slated so far are State Representatives Regan Deering and Bill Hauter. State Senator Sally Turner will also be speaking. Candidate for State Representative of the 105<sup>th</sup> Tim Reustman will be speaking as well. County Clerk Kathy Michael will also be on the platform as well as Republican County Board candidates.

JOIN US Every Tuesday Morning



**FREE - FUN- INFORMATIVE**

10:00am - 12:00pm

McLean County Republican Headquarters  
 202 S. Eldorado Suite B3, Bloomington




## FEDERAL & STATE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FORUM

BE AN INFORMED VOTER

			
Darren Bailey Candidate for Governor	Ted Dabrowski Candidate for Governor	Julie Bickelhaupt Candidate for Congress	Dillan Vancil Candidate for Congress

**Just a few of the Candidates who are speaking**  
**There will be time for Q & A**

Saturday, January 31, 2026 9 AM - 10:30 AM  
 Breakfast Event at the Doubletree Hotel  
 10 Brickyard, Bloomington

Get your ticket now at [https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/2026\\_candidate\\_forum](https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/2026_candidate_forum)

## Republican Night Out at the Rink

We had a great turn out on Dec. 5 at the Republican Night Out at the Bison Hockey Game at Grossinger Motors Arena. Around 90 people in the Republican section cheered the Bison in the close match against the Kalamazoo Wings. It was a tight game down to the last minute with the Bison losing by one point. Our Republicans were well represented with State Representative Regan Deering in attendance plus Congressional candidate Dillan Vancil. While free hats were tossed out to our GOP crowd, the evening ended with a great group shot on the ice.



## Volunteers Needed to Expand Office Hours

We have yard signs for various candidates, and we want to make them available to Republican voters. To help in that effort we want to expand our office hours to include Saturday from 11:00-1:00. We also want to add one more volunteer to our regular office hours, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 – 1PM. This will give supporters more options to pick up signs and literature. If you can help on a please go to this Sign-Up Genius Link and indicate when you can help. You will be contacted with details.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4FAFAB2DA7F5C25-61496413-2026>

